

THE QUESTION OF TRANSFERS

An Expected Fight That Did Not Come Off.

PAPER ADOPTED WITHOUT DISSENT

The Bishop, by Promptly Putting the Question, Disarmed Any Billigerent Intention.

ELOQUENT CHARGE TO THE YOUNG PREACHERS

The Orphanage Report Full of

Interest—Distinguished Visitor Makes an Eloquent Address Under the Interruption of Many Talkers.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., Nov. 13
"I was in many respects to-day a story
of things that did not happen, of long
expectations unfulfilled, of brilliant po-
tentialities that were not precolitated.
For two long hours conference, after
it assembled for its third day, was won-
derfully quiet, wonderfully sedate, won-
derfully businesslike. The air was rich
with oratory of a rare sort, but it all told,
with eloquence unsurpassed, of things
that did not rise above the level of the
regular denominational work.

WENT THROUGH LIKE A SHOT.

Noon had come and gone, and it looked as if the day was to pass without incident when in the midst of a sudden silence in the room the Rev. Mr. Cannon announced a resolution which he then read and there read. Its first words showed its impact, and the brethren began to get non-essentials (hats, coats, etc.) out of the way. For the resolution was upon the delicate transfer question, and a long and bitter fight was expected. Since the first conference hour this matter has been uppermost in many minds, and there has been a careful training of the members in the lobby. The speaker's chair. Opposition was expected from this quarter, and the body was cocked and primed for a struggle. Small wonder then that when Mr. Cannon began to read the rumble of distant thunder could be heard in the imagination of many. And

"All in favor of its adoption, say aye," said the bishop promptly upon the conclusion of the reading.

A chorus of ayes.

"All opposed, say no," continued the bishop with grand fervor.

Not a voice.

Surprise was writ large across the face of the bishop, as the conference had at last expressed itself on the transfer question, and altogether without a scrap. Everybody expected one, and some were disappointed, others glad. In the audience at the time was Dr. Smart, of Epworth, Norfolk, one of the transfers of the sort the conference objects to. Dr. Kelly is no there and will not be.

The resolutions were shrewdly drawn. They declared that there was a misapprehension among the people generally as to the attitude of the conference on the transfer question. Therefore, it would be well for the conference to put itself in a position of offering transfers in general, and, therefore, further, it was wise to declare as follows:

"That we cannot extend a hearty welcome to any transfers who come to us with an understanding made in advance that they will be required to make such arrangements to be destructive of that fraternal spirit which should characterize the relations of Methodist preachers with each other and with local churches, and that we, furthermore, believe that such arrangements are not necessary to the curing for and developing our work."

This hits directly at Dr. Kelly, who comes from Tennessee to the big Court Street Church. In an interview some time ago, Bishop Coke Smith said that he had no objection to any minister of any particular church. Had this been the case the Virginia ministers would have had no objection. But it now develops that Dr. Kelly comes for the express purpose of going to the Lynchburg conference, where he will be asked to make some salary arrangements with Court Street. This is what caused the fight, resulting in the pronouncement by the conference. The surprising thing is the attitude of Bishop Hendrix, who is the one who caused the fight. He is a white man. One of the men, whose names are signed to the paper, says that the only way it was done was by letting the bishop know how the conference felt. This was done, and he quickly saw that the ministers were satisfied with nothing less than a just, even resolution.

THE MORNING SESSION

Devotional exercises of a deep and earnest character distinguished the opening of the third day of conference. The feature of the day in this connection was the lecture by Bishop Hendricks on "The Epiphanies of the Spirit." The presiding officer spoke all too briefly; a fervent and eloquent address, breathing the spirit of reason and truth.

Business began in earnest about 10 o'clock.

The following were advanced to class of the second year: C. H. Fiedling, Henry C. Preifer, William E. Boyd, Jr., John W. Hudson, John C. Granebery, Jr., Virgilus R. Turner, John W. Eure and E. C. Odell.

Elected elders: John W. Lillaster, J. Hampden H. Smith, Lewis C. Shearer, John C. Bowl.

Local preachers elected deacons: C. H. Fiedling, Lee G. Crutchfield, Walter A. Jeffreys, Charles T. Thrift, Boyd E. Hudson, Virgilus R. Turner, John F. Crutchfield.

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